

The Stable Lad
Gordon Bok

[Intro]

Am D G

[Verse]

When Cobb & Co. ran coaches from the Buller to the Grey **Am**
D G
I went for a livery-stable lad in a halt up Westport way
Am G Am
And I gave my heart to a red-haired girl, and I left it where she lay
G C G D G
By the winding Westland highway from the Buller to the Grey

[Instrumental]

D G Am D G

[Verse]

I ve got Neatsfoot on me fingers, and lamp-black on me face **Am**
D G
I ve saddle-soaped the harness and hung each piece in place
Am G Am
But my heart s not in the stable, it s in Charleston far away
G C G D G D
Where Cobb & Co. goes rolling by from the Buller to the Grey

[Verse]

There s a red-haired girl in Charleston, she s dancing in the bar **Am**
D G
And I know she s not like other girls who dance where miners are
Am G Am
And I can t forget her eyes and everything they seemed to say
G C G D G D
The day I rode with Cobb & Co. from the Buller to the Grey

[Verse]

There s a schooner down from Murchison, I can hear her in the gorge **Am**
D G
And I ll have to work the bellows now and redden up the forge
Am G Am
I m going to strike that iron so hard, she ll hear it far away
G C G D G D
In the roaring European where the road runs by from Grey

[Verse]

G **Am**
 Some day I ll be teamster with the ribbons in me fist
D **G**
 And I ll drive that Cobb & Co. Express through rain and snow and mist
Am **G** **Am**
 Drive a four-in-hand to Charleston, and no matter what they say
G **C** **G** **D** **G**
 I ll take me girl up on the box and marry her in Grey

[Instrumental]

D G Am D G

[Verse]

Am
 There s a graveyard down in Charleston where moss trails from the trees
D **G**
 And the Westland wind comes moaning in from off the Tassman Seas
Am **G** **Am**
 And it s there they laid my red-haired girl, in a pit of yellow clay
G **C** **G** **D** **G** **D** **G**
 As Cobb & Co. went rolling by from the Buller to the Grey